## PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masayuki KANNO

Prior Group Art Unit: 1744

Application No.: Rule 53(b) Continuation Application of Prior Examiner: K. Thornton

U.S. Application No. 09/674,712

Filed: November 16, 2000

Docket No.: 107609.01

For: METHOD OF STERILIZING MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS

## <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u>

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

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2. The references were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. 09/674,712, filed November 16, 2000, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR §1.98(d).

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff Registration No. 27,075

H. James Voeller Registration No. 48,015

JAO:HJV/tea

Date: September 3, 2003

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(Use several sheets if necessary)  APPLICANT(S)  Masayuki KANNO						
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE NAME CLASS CLASS						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE COUNTRY CLASS CLASS						
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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)  US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)		e ATTY 1 107609	ATTY DOCKET NO. 107609		APPLICATION NO. 09/674,712			
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Date: September 3, 2003

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